Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1-2. (cancelled)

3. (currently amended) A system comprising: ~~for integrating a communication means with a document generation means including:~~

an electronic document generation module configured to allow a user to generate an electronic document;

an input device configured to receive from a user a predefined string of characters for entry into the electronic document, wherein the predefined string of characters represents information that is to be inserted into the electronic document, ~~said predefined string of characters to identify a user-defined unknown;~~

an active messaging module configured to recognize the predefined string of characters and, in response automatically open a messaging window on a display that permits the user to compose a message requesting the information that is to be inserted into the electronic document from one or more recipients. ~~a recognition algorithm to identify said predefined string as it is typed into a document disposed in an electronic format and on a first device;~~

~~a query window generated in response to said recognition algorithm identifying said predefined string said query window to act as a receptacle for a set of query data added by a user regarding said user-defined unknown;~~

~~a transmission means such that said set of query data may be read by a third party at a remote location;~~

~~a retransmission means such that said third party may send a set of response data, in response to said set of query data; and~~

~~an acceptance filter such that said response data may be analyzed by said user with said~~

~~first device prior to transposing a subset of said set of response data with said predefined string.~~

4. (currently amended) The system of claim 3 wherein said message window includes:

a context window, said context window to include a subset of said document ~~physically~~

proximate ~~to a query locale as defined by~~ the location of said predefined string of characters.

5. (currently amended) The system of claim 4 wherein the active messaging module is

further configured receive a response from a recipient and display the response to the user. ~~said~~

~~third party may modify said context window and said user may accept said modification as said~~

~~subset of said set of response data.~~

6. (currently amended) The system of claim ~~3~~ 5 wherein the active messaging module is

further configured to automatically integrate the response into the electronic document in

response to receiving approval from the user. ~~said user may modify said subset of response data~~

~~before said predefined string is replaced with it.~~

7. (currently amended) The system of claim ~~3~~ 5 wherein the active messaging module is

further configured to permit the user to edit the response. ~~further including a second device,~~

~~disposed at a second remote location, upon which said user receives said set of response data and~~

~~a second retransmission from said second device to said first device.~~

8. (currently amended) A computer-implemented method comprising: ~~system for~~

~~integrating a communication means with a document generation means including:~~

receiving a predefined string of characters into an electronic document entered by a user,

wherein the ~~, said~~ predefined string of characters ~~to identify~~ represents a user-defined unknown;

~~a recognition algorithm to identify said~~ recognizing the predefined string ~~as it is typed into a document disposed in an electronic format and on~~ using a first computing device, and, in response to recognizing the predefined string, automatically assembling a query that includes~~;~~

———a set of context data extracted from ~~text~~ a portion of the electronic document disposed proximate to user-defined unknown;

transmitting the query to a database located remotely from the first computing device ~~a transmission means such that said set of context data may be received by a second computing device and associated database at a remote location~~;

searching the database for information responsive to the user-defined unknown using information contained in the query; ~~a search means disposed on said second computing device to find an answer to said user-defined unknown from said associated database utilizing said set of context data;~~ and

transmitting a response containing responsive information to the first computing device. ~~a retransmission means such that said answer may be sent to said first computing device such that said answer may be transposed with said predefined string.~~

9.   (currently amended) The ~~system~~ method of claim 8 further comprising:
automatically inserting the responsive information into the electronic document in response to receiving an approval from the user. ~~including an acceptance filter such that said answer may be analyzed by said user prior to permanently transposing said predefined string with said answer.~~

10.   (new) The system of claim 7 wherein the active messaging module is further configured to automatically integrate an edited response into the electronic document.

11.   (new) A method comprising:

entering a predefined string of characters into an electronic document by a user, wherein the predefined string of characters represents information that is to be inserted into the document; and

by machine, recognizing the predefined string of characters in the electronic document and, in response to a recognition of the predefined string of characters, automatically opening a messaging window on a display that permits the user to request the information that is to be inserted into the electronic document from one or more recipients.

12.   (new) The method of claim 11 wherein the message window includes a portion of the electronic document surrounding the predefined string of characters.

13.   (new) The method of claim 12 further comprising:
enabling the user to vary the portion of the electronic document that is included in the message window.

14.   (new) The method of claim 12 wherein the message further includes a messaging area in which the user can enter a message to the one or more recipients.

15.   (new) The method of claim 11 wherein the one or more recipients includes a person.

16.   (new) The method of claim 11 wherein the predefined string of characters comprises a single character.

17.   (new) The method of claim 11 further comprising:
transmitting a message containing a request for the information that is to be inserted into the document to the one or more recipients.

18.   (new) The method of claim 17 further comprising:

receiving a response back from one or more of the recipients.

19.   (new) The method of claim 18 further comprising:

displaying the response to the user; and

enabling the user to approve the response before it is inserted into the electronic
document.

20.   (new) The method of claim 19 further comprising:

automatically inserting the response into the electronic document upon approval from the
user.

21.   (new) A computer-implemented method comprising:

transmitting an electronic message containing a request for the information that is to be
inserted into an electronic document to one or more recipients, wherein the message includes a
portion of the electronic document surrounding a location of where the information is to be
inserted;

receiving a response back from one or more of the recipients; and

automatically inserting the response into the electronic document.

22.   (new) The method of claim 21 further comprising:

displaying the response to the user; and

enabling the user to approve the response before it is automatically inserted into the
electronic document.

23.   (new) The method of claim 22 wherein automatically inserting the response into the
electronic document comprises:

automatically inserting the response into the electronic document upon approval from the
user.

24.   (new) The method of claim 21 further comprising:

displaying the response to the user; and

enabling the user to edit the response before it is automatically inserted into the electronic

document.

25.   (new) The method of claim 24 wherein automatically inserting the response into the

electronic document comprises:

automatically inserting the response into the electronic document upon approval from the

user.

26.   (new) The method of claim 21 wherein the electronic message further includes a

messaging area in which the user can enter a message to the one or more recipients.